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REMARKS

The Applicants first note that the Examiner has withdrawn each of the objections and rejections to claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112 and 35 U.S.C. §102. The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner in this regard.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-17, 24, 26 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Hoult (3,702,702). Additionally, the Examiner rejected claims 1-13, 17-23 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Collinson (6,213,901). Further, the Examiner rejected claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Morrow (6,066,056). Moreover, the Examiner rejected claims 1-13, 18-19 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over LeMire (20020107094). Finally, the Examiner rejected claims 14-17 and 20-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over LeMire as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kohler et al (6,916,259). The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections for reasons provided in their November 2, 2006 Office Action and further for reasons specified herein.

Independent Claims 1, 18, 24 and 28:

Independent claims 1, 18, 24, and 28 each recite lacrosse stick heads including a throat, a transverse wall, and two sidewalls extending outward from the two side surfaces of the throat and connected by the transverse wall. Independent claims 1, 18, 24 and 28 also each recite additional structure along the outside surface of the throat and sidewalls that provide some additional feature for manipulating a ball or lacrosse ball.

In his Response to Arguments Section, beginning on Page 12 of the Office Action, the Examiner responds to the Applicants' arguments with regards to the sidewall portions only, and does not choose to address the issue with respect to

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the throat or transverse wall with projections. The Applicants' independent claims 1, 18, 24, and 28 each require that the side surfaces of the throat or transverse wall with projections (as well as the sidewalls in certain claims), include an additional structure that is related to a ball or lacrosse ball playability feature. Because the Examiner chose to address the Applicants' arguments with respect to the sidewall only in his Response to Arguments Section, the Applicants are unclear as to whether the Examiner has appreciated the structure in the additional structure of the throat, transverse walls, and projections in rejecting the claims as indicated above. The Applicants therefore respectfully request a clarification as to whether the Examiner is addressing the throat, transverse wall, projections and sidewalls, or just the sidewalls alone, in order that they may properly and completely respond to this Final Office Action.

Assuming that the Examiner has not appreciated that each of the independent claims 1, 18, 24, and 28 require this additional structure in the throat, transverse walls, and/or projections, the Applicants maintain that none of the cited references teach or suggest a lacrosse head in which the side surface of the throat and sidewall sized, shaped, or a positioned for stably rolling a ball (claims 1, 18). Similarly, the Applicants maintain that none of the cited references teach or suggest teach a lacrosse head having a transverse wall and projections for grabbing a lacrosse ball (claim 24), or teach or suggest a lacrosse head wherein the throat includes a concave depression having a size and shape for supporting a lacrosse ball (claim 28).

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 18, 24 and 28 are patentable over the cited references, alone or in combination, and allowance of claims 1, 18, 24 and 28 is respectfully requested. Claims 2-17, 19-23, and 25-27 depend respectively from claims 1 and 18 and 24, and thus are

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believed to be allowable at least by dependency for at least the reasons set forth above and in their November 2, 2006 Response and further discussed herein.

Conclusion:

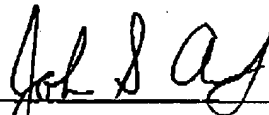
In view of the foregoing reasons, it respectfully submitted that all objections and rejections of record have been overcome and that all pending claims, namely claims 1-28, are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response to Deposit Account No. 50-0476.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if he has any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,

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